

Practitioner's Docket No.: 790_022

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: William VALLET, Denis REDOR, Alain ZANCO and
Christian ALARY

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: ALPINE SKI

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 11, 2003 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL 975170881 US.


Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached. In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of any of the U.S. references listed on Form PTO-1449.

Also enclosed is a copy of a French Search Report bearing a mailing date of August 21, 2003, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, U.S. Patent 3,921,994 (Ref. AB) (not enclosed) corresponds to FR 2 227 883 (Ref. AG).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

December 11, 2003

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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| Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | |
| | | | | Filing Date | Concurrently Herewith |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | William VALLET |
| | | | | Art Unit | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | |
| | | | | Confirmation No. | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket No. | 790_022 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|------------------|-----|-----------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------------|
| | AA* | 3,549,162 | 12-22-1970 | Coutts, Harold Y. | | | | |
| | AB* | 3,921,994 | 11-25-1975 | Locati, Giuseppe | | | | |
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U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

| Exam. Initial | | Application/ Publication Number | Filing/ Publication Date | Inventor Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|--------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation | Abstract |
|--|----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| | AC | 2 794 374 A1 | 12-08-2000 | FR | | | | ✓ |
| | AD | 0 034 643 A1 | 09-02-1981 | EP | | | | |
| | AE | 3 444 345 | 06-26-1986 | DE | | | | ✓ |
| | AF | 1 297 869 A1 | 04-02-2003 | EP | | | | ✓ |
| | AG | 2 227 883 | 11-29-1974 | FR | | | | ✓ |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

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| Examiner: | | Date Considered: | |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003 on the PTO website, we are not enclosing copies of any of the U.S. references listed above.*